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(h) against how many of them proceedings are still pending with regard to the dealings they had in the co-operative societies?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) No, Sir. But the Tindivanam Co-operative Sale Society, which was dormant during the period of control, formally commenced business in February 1955.

" (b) As no new society was formed, there was no necessity for any publicity.

" (c) There was no nomination by the Deputy Registrar in respect of the Tindivanam Sale Society.

" (d) to (h) In view of the answer to clause (c), these questions do not arise."

Suspension of certain village officers.

* 2036 Q.—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of the village officers, in Tiruvallur division were placed under suspension and that suspension was subsequently cancelled by the Collector of Chingleput district;

(b) if so, the number of such village officers and the reasons for suspending them; and

(c) whether the Government issued any instructions for suspending the village officers?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) & (b) Only 54 village officers (46 headmen and 8 karnams) were placed under suspension in 1954 by the Revenue Divisional Officer. Of these, 26 persons appealed to the Collector. The Collector upheld the suspension orders in 4 cases, modified them in 20 cases and cancelled the orders in 2 cases. The reasons for suspension were slackness in collection work, misappropriation, non-residence in the duty-village and other miscellaneous causes.

" (c) No Sir."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in certain cases the Revenue Divisional Officers have suspended village officers even for trivial offences on unreasonable grounds in the matter of bargaining business? Will the Hon. Minister come forward to issue strict instructions to the Revenue Divisional Officers that suspension of village officers on a large scale is to be stopped at least in future? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, I do not understand what the hon. Member means by ' bargaining

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business '. I referred to cases of misappropriation, non-residence in the duty-village and in certain cases slackness in collection work. I think these have to be rectified. If such cases occur, some punishment is necessary.''

Sri S. Ramalingam :—" சர்க்கார் பணத்தைக் கையாடல் செய்ததாக ஒரு சில கிராம உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் வேலையினின்றும் நீக்கப்பட்டதாக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். ஏற்கெனவே ஒரு விஷயத்தை சர்க்கார் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறேன். கிராம உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் அவர்கள் வசூல் செய்யும் பணத்துக்கு கொடுக்கக்கூடிய ரசீதுகள் சரியான முறையில் இல்லை. அவர்கள் துண்டுக் கடுதாசிகளிலும் ரசீது கொடுக்கிறார்கள் ; அச்சடித்த கடுதாசிகளிலும் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அவற்றுக்கு ' ட்யூப்ளிகேட் ' இல்லை. கார்பன் காப்பி எடுக்கக்கூடிய புத்தகங்கள் இல்லை. இந்த முறை ராஜ்யம் பூராவும் இருக்கிறது. அதனால்தான் ஒரு சில இடங்களில் இந்த மாதிரிக் கையாடல்களுக்கு சந்தர்ப்பம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே சர்க்கார் அச்சடித்து, மெஷின் நம்பர் போட்டு, கார்பன் காப்பி எடுக்கக்கூடிய ரசீதுப் புத்தகங்களை கிராம உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்குக் கொடுத்து அவர்கள் வாங்கக்கூடிய பணத்திற்கு சரியான ரசீது கொடுக்க வேண்டும் என்கிற முறையைக் கொண்டு வருவார்களா ? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu :—" இது வேறு விஷயம். மேலும் பெரிய விஷயம். பிற்பாடு கவனிக்கப்படும்."

Sri M. Narayana Kurup :—" Sir, among the reasons given, I find one of them is misappropriation of public funds. As it is a serious matter, may I know whether these suspensions were made pending investigation of the charges against them and if so, may I know whether any final orders on the investigation have been passed in these cases? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu :—" Sir, I cannot definitely answer the question now as I have no information with me. I would like to have notice."

Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar :—" From the answer given by the Hon. Minister, I understand that non-residence in the village concerned is one of the reasons for suspension of the village officials. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether outsiders who are appointed as village officers to any particular village are given any house-rent allowance? In view of the fact that these people are given a very meagre pay, not a living wage, will the Government see that non-residence is not taken as a ground for suspension of these officers? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu :—" Sir, that question is for future consideration. Now, we have to administer the law as it obtains to-day."

Irrigation facilities in Aziz Nagar Settlement.

* 2037 *Q.*—Sri M. Kattimuthu : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has recently been received by the Government for constructing a channel from Kammapuram tank to Vanampartha tank in Aziz Nagar Settlement in Vriddhachalam taluk for diverting water for irrigational purposes; and